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3 May 1983 MJN-8310

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH:

Chief. Operations Group

SUBJECT:

Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--April 1983

I. GENERAL

Following the explosion at the American Embassy in Beirut, security has been tightened around the Embassy and Bureau in Amman. The road behind the Embassy, in front of the Bureau, has been permanently blocked to traffic, and a barrier of steel poles now lines the curb in front of the Embassy. An electronic gate is to be installed across the driveway beside the Embassy where the ambassador's car is usually parked. Although the new measures have eliminated a number of parking spaces, further snarled traffic flow, and annoyed neighboring merchants, the inconvenience seems a ncessary price for the added security.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/monitorial

- 1. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat visited Amman 31 March 5 April. 'Arafat met several times with King Husayn, but the Jordanian-Palestinian statement that was expected prior to 'Arafat's departure was not released when 'Arafat departed on 5 April. He was expected to return 2 days later, following talks with a number of PLO officials in the region, but he did not. On 10 April, following a cabinet meeting presided over by King Husayn, the Jordanians released a communique announcing that Jordan would not act separately or in lieu of anyone in Middle East negotiations. The Bureau's coverage of the talks and their subsequent breakdown was praised in an admin from AG's Mideast Branch, which expressed appreciation for the Bureau's "fine coverage" of the talks and said that our coverage of Jordanian, Syrian, Palestinian and East Jerusalem media had been "excellent."
- 2. On 30 April the Beirut paper, AN-NAHAR, published an interview with King Husayn, the text of which was carried by Amman television, reiterating that Jordan does not act on behalf of any side and that the PLO is the Palestinian people's only legitimate representative.

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B. Lateral services

- 1. Since the beginning of April the Bureau has been providing, by courier, a copy of the Bureau's incoming and outgoing file to several additional Jordanian government offices that are assessing the material's usefulness.
- 2. On 21 April, in response to a request from USIS on behalf of the ambassador, we made a videotape of an Amman Television interview with a visiting professor from Florida Univeristy.

C. <u>Technical</u>

- 1. A second reperforator has been installed in the Bureau's communications room. This has noticeably improved the unattended overnight operation. Each reperforator handles 3 hours of traffic; items received after that are printed out on the teletype machines. The new system has eliminated the occasional need to ask for reruns of items missed due to paper jams or the heavy volume of traffic and makes it easier for the teletypists to log and distribute the overnight traffic.
- 2. The Bureau technician ran electrical ducts around two walls in the communications room and put in additional 110-volt outlets so that we can plug all the machines in without using extension cords, as we had been doing. He also ran an electrical conduit from the communications rack to one of the main circuit breakers so that the rack is now fed directly rather than from an extension cord.

III. VISITS

- A. As a followup to the Embassy-wide floor wardens meeting, the Regional Security Officer visited the Bureau on 13 April to discuss emergency procedures with our staff. He reviewed what to do in case of fire, bomb threats or and riots. One of the marines demonstrated how to use the new gas masks which the Bureau received recently, and the RSO answered a number of questions.
- B. AG Analyst Bob Loftus visited the Bureau 26 April 2 May. He met with several embassy officers, a Jordanian foreign ministry official and some members of the Jordanian academic community. He and a visiting INR analyst also accompanied the DCM to the Soviet Embassy for a briefing.

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| IV. | COMMUNITY AFFAIRS | |
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| | Bureau Chief was elected to a 1-year term member of the board of the American Embassy Employees ciation. | STAT |
| | | STAT |
| | Chief, Jordan Bureau | |

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1. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

| | TOTAL | PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MON NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DUR | MONTH: | 221,69 101,69 | 50 |
|---|---------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | ΙΙ. | INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: | BROAD- Casts | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI- Cations |
| | | (MINUTES OR ISSUES PER WEEK) | 5670 | 19455 | 68 |
| | Ш. | OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: | | | |
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| | CLAND | ARABIC Estine (Iran and Iraq) Destine) voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in | | 550 | |
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| | | NENA IN Arabic F | | 128 | |
| | PARIS | RADIO MONTE CARLO IN Arabic | 23950 | | |
| | PARIS | AL-MUSTAQBAL IN Arabic | 20700 | | 1240 |
| | PARIS | AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI IN Arabic | | | 7338 |
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| | ISRAE | | | | • |
| | | ARABIC TO THE ARAB WORLD Alem Domestic Television Service in | 4499 | | |
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| | JERUS | RABIC ALEM AL-QUDS IN ARABIC | | | 338 |
| | JERUS | ALEM ASH-SHA'B IN Arabic | | | 9 |
| | JERUS | ALEM AT-TALI'AH IN ARABIC | | | 90 |
| | JORDA | | | | |
| | AMMAN | ARABIC Domestic Service in | 25920 | | |
| | AHHAN | ENGLISH DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN | 2248 | | |
| | AMMAN | ARABIC Domestic Television Service in | 5570 | | |
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| , | AHMAN | I AKHBAR AL-USBU'IN Arabic | | | 1940 |
| | | I AR-RA'Y IN Arabic | | | 4200 |
| | | I SANT ASH-SHA'B IN Arabic | | | 1870 |
| | Ε | I JERUSALEM STAR IN NGLISH | | | 510. |
| | | JORDAN TIMES IN English | | | 3640 |
| | | AKABIC Brabic | | 740 | |
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| | SYRIA | | | 200 | |
| | | ARABIC CUS DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN | 34738 | | |
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| | UNITE | ARABIC D Kingdom | | 13810 | |
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JORDAN BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1983